

**IN THE  
UNITED STATES  
PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

**IN RE APPLICATION OF:** Gillis, et al.

**CASE:** DUR-021130

**SERIAL NO.:** 10/707,983

**FILING DATE:** January 29, 2004

**FOR:** Expandable Bore Trocar

**EXTENSION OF TIME**

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**ATTENTION OF:**  
Art Unit 3763  
**EXAMINER:**  
Paul Smith  
**CONFIRMATION NO.**  
1982

Dear Examiner Smith:

If any charges or fees must be paid in connection with the following communication, they may be paid out of our Deposit Account No. 50-0545.

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. Section 1.136, Applicant respectfully requests an extension of the period in which to file the response to the Office Action mailed June 13, 2006, regarding the above-identified patent application, for an additional three months, from September 13, 2006 up to and including December 13, 2006.

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. Section 1.136, Applicant respectfully submits that a response was originally required to be filed on September 13, 2006, a period of three months from the mailing date of the Office Action; that the above-identified patent application is not involved in an interference proceeding; and that the Applicant herewith submits the three-month small entity Extension of Time fee of \$510.00, pursuant to 37 C.F.R. Section 1.17(a).

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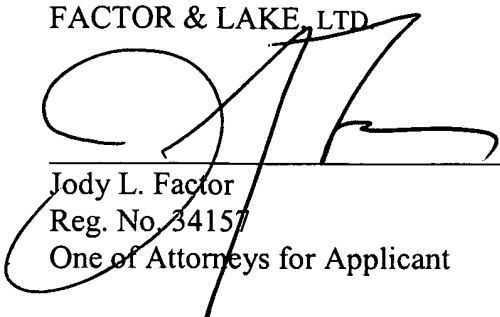
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Applicant accordingly petitions for acceptance of the presently requested three month extension of time.

Should anything further be required, a telephone call to the undersigned, at (312) 226-1818, is respectfully invited.

Respectfully submitted,

FACTOR & LAKE, LTD.

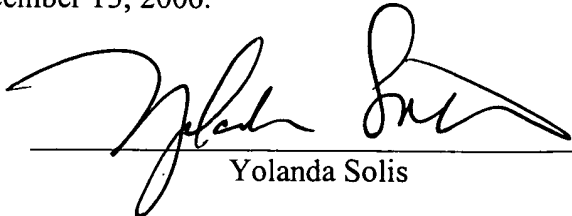


Jody L. Factor  
Reg. No. 34157  
One of Attorneys for Applicant

Dated: December 13, 2006

**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING**

I hereby certify that this AMENDMENT AND REPLY TO THE OFFICE ACTION MAILED ON JUNE 13, 2006 is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Patent Ext., Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on December 13, 2006.



Yolanda Solis